Message Text

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44

ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 AID-05 /033 W

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R 241245Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1584

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DEPT PASS EXIM BANK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, BEXP, XMB, SL

SUBJECT: EXIM FINANCING FOR SIERRA LEONE

- 1. PROMINENT LOCAL BUSINESS MAN INDICATED TO AMBASSADOR LAST NIGHT THAT AMERICAN FIRM, GTE, HAD BEEN LOW BIDDER ON SATELLITE GROUND STATION DESIRED BY GOSL. GTE OFFER DEPENDENT, HOWEVER, ON EXIM FINANCING AND BOTH GTE REPRESENTATIVES AND BANK OF AMERICA OFFICIALS IN LONDON HAD TOLD LOCAL SIERRA LEONEAN CONTACTS THAT EXIM HAD REFUSED TO PROVIDE FINANCING.
- 2. BUSINESSMAN ASKED IF THIS MEANT EXIM NOT INTERESTED IN FUNDING PROJECTS IN SIERRA LEONE. IF NOT, HE WANTED TO KNOW WHAT PROJECTS HE SHOULD BE PURSUING WITH US FIRMS WITH EXIM FINANCING IN MIND.
- 3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WISHES TO KNOW IF EXIM RECEIVED, TURNED DOWN OR OTHERWISE INHIBITED GTE SATELLITE GROUND STATION REQUEST. EMBASSY ALSO ANXIOUS TO KNOW HOW TO RESPOND TO QUESTION POSED PARA 2. WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE ASAP.
- 4. FYI. THIS BUSINESSMAN ALSO REPRESENTED MITSUBISHI DURING BIDDING. MITSUBISHI HAS SECOND LOWEST BID WHICH LIKELY TO BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACCEPTED UNLESS GTE FINANCING COMES THROUGH QUICKLY. LOCAL

BUSINESSMAN STANDS TO GAIN REGARDLESS, BUT FEELS GTE REMAINS
BEST FOR GOSL. END FYI.
SAMUELS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: FINANCE, CONSTRUCTION, PROPOSALS (BID), TRACKING STATIONS

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

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Subject: EXIM FINANCING FOR SIERRA LEONE

TAGS: EAID, BEXP, SL, XMB To: STATE

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